Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01949 100851Z ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DHA-02 /051 W

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, KS, US
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT CARTER'S AND SECRETARY'S MEETINGS WITH
FOREIGN MINISTER PAK

- 1. ROK MEDIA AFTERNOON MARCH 10 FEATURED PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER PAK, STRESSING PRESIDENT'S REASSURANCE THAT TROOP REDUCTIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CONSULTATION WITH ROK AND JAPAN AND WITHOUT UPSETTING STABILITY OF KOREAN PENINSULA, AND THAT U.S. COMMITMENT TO KOREA'S SECURITY WAS RECONFIRMED. PRESS ACCOUNTS ALSO FEATURE REPORTED COMMITMENT BY PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT KOREAN FORCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN UNTIL 1981.
- 2. AS REGARDS HUMAN RIGHTS, MOST PAPERS INDICATE SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED, BUT EMPHASIZE MINISTER PAK'S ASSERTIONS THAT CRITICS OF KOREA ARE IN ERROR, AND PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENT THAT U.S. HAS NO INTENTION OF INTERFERING IN KOREAN AFFAIRS.
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3. CHUNGANG ILBO ALSO REPORTED PRESIDENT CARTER HAD EXPRESSED HOPE TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT PAK, AND THAT MINISTER HAD INVITED PRESIDENT TO VISIT KOREA WHENEVER HE SHOULD VISIT FAR EAST. STORY NOTES HOWEVER, THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE HAD DISCOUNTED LIKELIHOOD OF SUCH A TRIP IN NEAR FUTURE.

4. PRESS ALSO REPORTS ON FRONT PAGES PAK'S MEETING WITH SECRETARY VANCE, INDICATING DISCUSSION COVERED U.S. TROOP ISSUE, RENEWED U.S. ASSURANCES THAT THERE WOULD BE NO CONTACT WITH NORTH KOREA WITHOUT ROK PARTICIPATION, UN STRATEGY, AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS.

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